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**BIOTECHNOLOGY - LABORATORIES FOR
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND
ANALYSIS - GUIDANCE ON CONTAINMENT
OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANTS**

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English version

**Biotechnology - Laboratories for research, development and
analysis - Guidance on containment of genetically modified
plants**

Biotechnologie - Laboratoires de recherche,
développement et analyse - Guide pour le confinement des
plantes génétiquement modifiées

Biotechnik - Laboratorien für Forschung, Entwicklung und
Analyse - Leitfaden für die Einschließung von gentechnisch
veränderten Pflanzen

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Foreword

This European Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 233 "Biotechnology", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2002, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2002.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

The measures described in this European Standard are designed to contain genetically modified plants, where this is required. Genetically modified plants include those in which the introduced genetic material is derived from another plant or from a non-plant source, for example a virus or other microorganism. Containment of genetically modified microorganisms, the subject of Directive 98/81/EC (including 90/219/EEC) [1] and/or genetically modified small animals associated with plants is not included in this standard; their containment may require different measures from those mentioned here.

The containment principles described apply both to greenhouses, including growth tunnels, and to the more complex containment facilities required when greenhouses do not provide the degree of containment required.

Risk analysis is required to determine any hazard and its magnitude as well as the containment measures needed to minimize the risk.

The selection of containment measures for plants classified in a given group requires identification of the means including work practices, by which particular plants may be dispersed in the relevant situation. Containment measures used for one species may be irrelevant to another, which is dispersed by different mechanisms. Containment measures are therefore selected for the particular situation.

In many cases, containment by biological rather than structural means will be appropriate. The use of male sterile plants and maternally inherited genetic modifications are examples of potential biological containment measures.

Users of this European Standard may be involved with hazards associated with materials, operations and equipment. This European Standard does not address all of these safety problems. It is the responsibility of the user of this European Standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations for the proposed work.

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